The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and more other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Narrowness of mind is often the cause of obstinacy.—La Rochefoucauld.

WHOLE NO. 1044. WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1931 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary VOL. 21, NO. 5.

OHIO COAL MINERS FACING STARVATION

Indianapolis, April 11.—"Wages for Ohio miners have been reduced—not once, but many times," says United Mine Workers' Journal, official magazine United Mine Workers of America.

"All decent working conditions have been destroyed. Starvation and want prevail among the miners and their families to such an extent that some counties in that State are nearly bankrupt from taking care of their destitute population.

"Every source of public and private relief has been taxed to the utmost and there is an appalling amount of poverty and destitution among miners' families that has not been and can not be relieved.

"Company stores were established by coal companies which took business away from local merchants and left them high and dry. Many of them were forced into bankruptcy by this double-cross act of the coal companies, whose promised prosperity has not materialized.

"Instead of producing more coal and affording more days of work for miners, the wage-cutting policy resulted in less output. Those who settled in the mines have seen their wives and children suffer for want of food because they are unable to earn enough to provide for them.

"Local merchants long ago discovered that anti-union operators have gyped them. Scores have been driven out of business by company stores and the fact that miners have no money. Banks have been closed in a number of mining towns and the mining section of Ohio is in a more deplorable condition today than ever before."

CONLON'S FUNERAL LARGELY ATTENDED

Washington, April 11.—The funeral of Peter J. Conlon, general vice president International Association of Machinists, was large attended by trade union executives.

The funeral was held in the Virginia hills, across the Potomac River, where he lived for many years. Active pallbearers included President Wharton and Secretary-Treasurer Davison, of the International Association of Machinists.

Mr. Conlon was widely known in trade union circles throughout the North American continent. He traveled extensively in his early years, and was a factor in building the International Association of Machinists, which he joined 42 years ago. He was elected a member of the general executive board in 1895, and served in an official capacity until his death.

He was in charge of the machinists' organizing department for many years.

FIVE-DAY WORK WEEK WOULD REVIVE TRADE

Paducah, Ky., April 11.—The five-day week was urged by United States Senator Barkley at a trade union mass-meeting in this city. Business would be revived under the short week plan, he said.

"Unemployment through the introduction of labor-displacing machinery is, in a measure, responsible for much of the depression, declared Senator Barkley.

"If the benefits derived from modern machinery mean so much to society, then society owes it to those who are thus deprived of employment to share with them the profits which result from this situation. The jobs which remain after the introduction of machinery should be more widely shared among all workers. I don't know of a better solution than the five-day week."

BUSINESS CHAMBER TO STABILIZE JOBS

Washington, April 11.—The United States Chamber of Commerce appointed a committee to study the possibilities of devising measures to insure maximum industrial employment at all times.

Julius H. Barnes, chairman of the chamber's board of directors, said there is a "widespread and quickened human sympathy with the distress of those whose earning power has been lowered, or suspended by business depression."

Mr. Barnes indicates that present agitation for legislative action is a factor in causing the investigation.

"We must employ the self-reliance and resourcefulness of private industry and not hazard the virus of governmental lethargy which accompanies unemployment relief administered by the State," he said.

REDUCTION OF WAGES MAKES MATTERS WORSE

Cleveland, Ohio, April 11.—"Reduction of wages is economic fumbling," declared Rabbi Bricker, of Euclid Avenue Temple, in a plea for men to think straight rather than continue the cause for our depression.

"The way out lies in higher wages, not in lower buying power of workers who are the nation's best customers," he said. The rabbi predicted a foggy day. He indicted business men and politicians for present conditions, and said America lacks industrial leadership. Men who pose as "leaders" have no remedy but lower wages, he said.

STATE UNIONS TO MEET

Providence, R. I., April 11.—The annual convention Rhode Island Federation of Labor will convene in this city Saturday, April 25.

ARE BANKERS BEHIND WAGE CUT AGITATION?

The statement that the Governor of the Bank of England is in this country to discuss wage reductions with American bankers should be given more than passing notice by trade unionists and sympathizers.

The statement may be denied—as bankers usually do not announce their purpose—but the statement should remind workers of the power of these financiers and their attitude toward lower wages.

Industrialists, retail business men and statesmen may declare for high wages, but the bankers hold the key to the situation by their control of the nation's credit.

The banker knows nothing of industry. He loans money at a certain per cent and he demands returns.

To secure his per cent he is willing to revert—as he is now doing—to the discredited philosophy of the iron law of wages.

The head of America's largest bank has gone so far as to declare:

"It is not true that high wages make prosperity—instead, prosperity makes high wages."

In other words, trade unions have nothing to do with maintaining high wages. Neither is high purchasing power a factor in sustaining prosperous times.

Wages, according to this banker's reasoning, depend upon the employer, who graciously permits a certain percentage of income, sufficient to maintain a bread basket standard of living, to sift into the workers' pockets in the form of wages.

These bankers would overthrow America's wage philosophy that has been accepted after a quarter of a century agitation by organized labor.

The bankers are revamping theories that prevailed in England 75 years ago—high wages increase production costs and interfere with dividends.

Let no organized worker put his trust in glowing statements by employers or office holders who talk of high wages.

Those men must be given credit for sincerity, but there is a power beyond them—the banker who controls credit. He can dictate—generally by secret methods—the terms under which money is loaned to employers.

If organized labor permits this bankers' policy to be unchallenged—if the purpose of these bankers is unknown—they will continue their policy of stealthily undermining the nation's concept of wages.

This is the first essential for a mass attack on wages that will eventually swamp every protest.

Organized workers should draw a sharp line between the business man who favors high wages, because of increased purchasing power, and bankers who want low wages that per cent is assured.

WORKERS' PAUPER WAGE USED FOR INCOME TAX

Johnstown, Pa., April 11.—The Johnstown Democrat, that has been exposing the low-wage, company-store policy of anthracite operators in Central Pennsylvania, prints this story:

"We have at hand a pay check issued to a miner and covering the two-weeks' period ending Feb. 15. The man mined 16 tons of coal at 65 cents a ton. That gave him $10.40 as the amount due. Against the sum due there were the following deductions: Relief, $1.50; smithing, 10 cents; lamps, 75 cents; supplies, $2.29 —or total deductions of $4.64. That left the net wage for the pay period just $5.76. Not very much—if you happen to have a wife and five or six children to support.

"However, the pay check—in common with all the others issued—bears this notation: 'Retain this statement for income tax purposes.' There surely is a an ironic laugh in that—or a sympathetic tear. Five dollars and seventy-six cents for two weeks—and be sure you do not forget the sum when income tax time rolls around."

NEW CITY CHARTER PASSES IN 'FRISCO

San Francisco, April 11.—A new charter for this city, that places all power in a few hands, was approved by a majority of 15,638 votes.

The charter creates a Chief Administrative Officer with tremendous powers as the central figure in the city's plan of government. He will have authority to appoint a host of subordinates and can be removed only by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Supervisors or by a recall election. The mayor, who was elected last Fall, will appoint the new administrator, who, together with the controller, will have unlimited powers. Many officials, now elected, will be appointed.

The plan must be indorsed by the State Legislature, but this, it is declared, will be a formality. The charter is effective Jan. 8, next year. Constitutionality of the plan was questioned during the campaign and the charter faces long litigation.

Straw votes during the campaign indicated the charter's defeat but the sponsors for the change were not deterred.

Organized labor led in opposing the charter, which is classed as a Mussolini ideal.

WAGE CUTS FOR LABOR IN AKRON FACTORIES

Akron, Ohio, April 11.—Workers in the local rubber industry are facing wage cuts that range from 5 to 20 per cent. The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, with 13,000 employes, is leading this movement which is given the soothing title "reclassification."

The B. F. Goodrich Co. took similar action on the ground that it "is a fundamental policy" of the company to pay wages in line with the current scale.

Other rubber concerns are reported to be contemplating wage cuts.

Akron is built around rubber factories wherein organization of labor is denied. The industry is marked by rigid espionage systems.

CITY RELIEF MEASURE PASSED BY LAWMAKERS

Albany, N. Y., April 11.—Governor Roosevelt signed a legislative bill which amends the New York City charter to authorize that city to issue $10,000,000 of temporary indebtedness during this year for emergency unemployment relief.

More than $8,000,000 was raised by New York citizens to provide work for three days a week at $5 a day for heads of families. This fund was exhausted the first of April, and legislative action was imperative.

The bill was introduced at the request of Acting Mayor McKee of New York City and was written into law in less than 24 hours.

HOME GARDENS URGED

Washington, April 11.—Home gardens as an unemployment aid is urged by the President's Emergency Committee on Employment.

The produce, it was emphasized, should be for home consumption and as a temporary expedient, but not to compete with the farmer. It is not stated how a city dweller can grow a bushel of potatoes and not affect the man on the farm who grows that commodity.

MODERN BANDITRY COSTING BILLIONS

Albany, N. Y., April 11.—Racketeering is costing the Nation from $12,000,000,000 to $18,000,000,000, according to a final report by the State Crimes Commission.

An investigation so that steps can be taken to curb this form of banditry in New York State is recommended.

"During the past few years," the report states, "there has grown up, particularly in the larger cities, an illegal system of levying tribute from legitimate organizations and business.

"How much it is costing the American public can not be definitely figured, but estimates range from twelve billion to eighteen billion dollars. One racket in New York State alone, that of fake securities, is known to total approximately $400,000,000 a year."

The report said larger surety companies estimate that crimes against property total nearly $7,000,000,000 annually. It referred to a recent speech estimating that between $200,000,000 and $600,000,000 has been levied yearly in tribute from men in every business in New York City.

"These figures are astounding, and it is the public who pays them," the report added. "It would seem that corrective measures can be formulated to stop, in part at least, the racketeering within the confines of the State, but the subject should be investigated, which can be done, and that the necessary steps can be intelligently taken."

The report pointed out that a large percentage of criminals are developed through juvenile delinquency.

OLD AGE SECURITY LEGISLATION GROWS

New York, April 11.—Fifteen States have old age pension laws, as a result of the passage of new legislation in three States last month, bringing the number of new laws passed during the 1931 legislative session to seven—a record in this field—according to the American Association for Old Age Security.

West Virginia during March enacted an old age pension law. Oregon established a commission to report upon old age needs. Colorado made effective its 1927 law which has been practically inoperative.

Delaware, Idaho, Minnesota and Wyoming enacted new laws or improved old statutes, and New Jersey is also expected to join the pension States, this year.

JOHN MOSSOP RESIGNS

Indianapolis, April 11.—Ill health compelled John J. Mossop to resign as a member of the international board of auditors, United Mine Workers, after 32 years' continuous service in that position. He is one of the "old guard" in the miners' organization.

RESIST WAGE CUTS

Rock Island, Ill., April 11.—Building trade unions in this city, Moline and Davenport, rejected a contractors' proposal that wages be cut $1 a day. The contractors insist that low wages will intensify the depression.

POWER TRUST DEALT HARD BLOW; DENIED FREE HAND TO SET RATES

Washington, April 11.—The Federal Power Commission upset Attorney General Mitchell's ruling that the Appalachian Electric Power Company may erect its proposed dam across the New River, in West Virginia, under a "minor" permit, free from the safeguards and valuation provisions of the Federal Power Act.

The attorney general holds that the New River is a navigable stream and, therefore, does not come under the Federal Act. The decision would create a precedent by permitting this power company to build the dam without having to report costs to the Federal Commission. With this freedom assured there would be no control of rates based on values for this or numerous other projects that could be charged at the will of the company.

The commission holds that the New River is a "feeder" for navigable streams and that the dam must be constructed under a standard form of license.

Water power conservationists throughout the country were aroused at the Mitchell decision, which would undermine Federal control of these utilities. Several states supported the decision under the plea of "state rights."

The National Popular Government League defended the Federal Power Act, but the Federal Power Commission refused to permit the league to be represented by attorneys who would appear in behalf of the public. The United States attorney general is on the other side of the question. The commission, however, permitted the league to file a brief, which was signed by several well-known lawyers, including Jackson H. Ralston, former counsel for the A. F. of L., and who have offices in California.

The commission's decision puts the po-wer trust in an awkward position. If Mr. Mitchell rule ground was prepared to wreck the Federal Power Act by taking control of many streams out of the hands of the commission by issuing "minor" permits to power companies.

If the trust challenges the commission's decision it repudiates its professed faith in Federal regulation and strengthens sentiment in favor of public ownership.

Bottom of Depression Seems Here; Recovery, However, Hasn't Begun

Washington, April 11.—The first quarter of this year ends with a firmer conviction that business has re ched the bottom of depression, but as yet there is no conclusive evidence that sustained recovery has begun, says the A. F. of L. Monthly Survey of Business, April issue.

"The months just passed have been characterized by uneven trends. Such a period usually comes at the end of a business depression, immediately before revival."

Unemployment reports from trade unions indicate another slight improvement in March, the bulletin states.

"Our weighted figure showed 19.8 per cent out of work in January, 19 per cent in February and 18.2 per cent in the first half of March.

"Much talk has been heard lately about wage cuts. Until now there has been strong feeling against wage reductions in manufacturing circles and strenuous efforts have been made by many firms to avoid wage cut changes. Present advocates of wage cuts come largely from banking circles, but at least one leading manufacturer who declared against wage cuts ten months ago is now publicly announcing that he expects to reduce wages.

"'Cost of living has declined, therefore workers could buy as much even if wages were cut.' We frequently hear this statement. But this statement does not take account of part-time work and unemployment. For the last four months our reports from unions show that from 18 to 20 per cent of the membership have been working part time each month.

"Hard as the readjustments of depression are, they can be accomplished without wage cuts, as past history shows. We are in a new era. Mass production depends upon mass buying. Wage cut philosophy is out of date."

The bulletin states that profits rose to a high peak in 1929, increasing 35 per cent in two years.

"Most of the increased earnings went to stockholders and some were held as a reserve. Dividends increased 26 per cent, wages only 8 per cent. When depression set in 1930, profits declined to a point below the 1927 level. Nevertheless, dividends were continued at the high 1929 level. But wage payments were cut 19 per cent. Keeping reserves for wages would solve much of the unemployment problem."

PEOPLE ARE FILCHED BY PUBLIC UTILITIES

Harrisburg, Pa., April 11.—Criminal prosecution of the Public Service Commission and some utility companies for "plundering the people," was demanded by Rev. Fr. James R. Cox of Pittsburgh, at a hearing by a legislative committee that is investigating public utilities.

The priest referred specifically to the Scranton-Springbrook Water Company, operating in Lackawanna and Luzerne counties, and the Duquesne Light Company of Pittsburgh.

The Pittsburgh company, the clergyman said, reported a valuation of $49,000,000 for taxing purposes and a valuation of $149,000,000 for rate making purposes.

Ousting the Public Service Commission is not sufficient, the witness insisted. "We need action to properly punish these commissioners and the companies who have plundered the people," he said.

"We have enough evidence, in my amateurish way of thinking, to institute criminal cases and regulate these things for years and years to come.

"If we had the same attitude concerning some poor criminal, some boy, we would have prosecuted him long ago, but here they are stealing millions and all we do is to pat them on the back."

SIGN INCOME TAX BILL

Oklahoma City, April 11.—Governor Murray signed an income tax bill that applies to corporations and individuals. The bill provides for a tax of 2 per cent on incomes up to $10,000 a year, 3 per cent on $10,000 to $20,000, 4 per cent on $20,000 to $100,000 and 5 per cent on all above $100,000.

BOLDEST SOCIAL VIEWS FOUND IN U. S. SENATE

New York, April 11.—"It is in the Senate that progressive views have in recent years found their boldest advocates," said Senator Wagner in a radio address broadcast in Germany and in the United States.

The New York Senator explained to citizens of the German Republic how America's lawmaking branch functions.

Mr. Wagner said that while members of the Senate are relatively older than members of the House of Representatives, the former is "the only platform for minorities to give expression to their grievances, the only check upon administrative excesses, the only source from which light can be thrown upon the executive branch of the government."

Senator Wagner expressed well wishes for the "gallant efforts of the German Republic to solve its problems through democratic government."

"As a member of the United States Senate," he said, "I am daily reminded of the liberal, progressive spirit among the German Forty-eighters, fought his great battles for American institutions. The political idealism, the progressive liberalism, in the very chamber where it is now my honor to serve."

COAL CONCERN BROKE; EMPLOYED COMMUNISTS

Bicknell, Ind., April 11.—The Knox Consolidated Coal Company, largest concern of its kind in this state, filed a petition in bankruptcy in the Federal court at Indianapolis. Its assets are $1,262,945, and liabilities $4,346,976.

This concern violated an agreement with the United Mine Workers and imported Communist strikebreakers. The "reds" organized a local of the so-called National Miners Union, with direct connection with the "red" international of Moscow.

The Communists worked for wages that are lower than the regular union scale and made no concealment of their purpose to smash the United Mine Workers. They were aided by the company, which is now wrecked and owes three times as much as its assets.

WORKERS LOCKED OUT

Madison, Wis., April 11.—Local building craftsmen were locked out by employers who demand lower wages and the anti-union shop.

The employers would cut rates 50 cents an hour for mechanics.

MINERS RENEW CONTRACT

Terre Haute, Ind., April 11.—Organized miners and coal owners renewed their agreement that must be approved by a miners' convention. The miners will continue work until a decision is reached.

NO WOMEN AS JURORS

Concord, N. H., April 11.—The House of Representatives rejected a bill which would make women, with certain exceptions, subject to jury duty.

British Workers Resist Wage Cuts; Different Story Is Told U. S. Labor

Washington, April 11.—Wage reduction proposals are rejected by British workers, according to information from that country received by Frank Morrison, secretary A. F. of L.

British workers are also publishing profits of employers who demand lower rates.

This attitude is contrary to statements by American financial writers, one of whom recently stated in a syndicated article:

"During the last 30 days wage reductions have been agreed to by more than 1,500,000 workers in Great Britain without any serious disturbance. In fact, little has been said about it."

This meek acceptance of wage cuts is denied by Will Sherwood, an official of the National Union of General and Municipal Workers, who writes from London to Secretary Morrison:

"We are having a good deal of controversy in this country in regard to the need of reducing existing wage rates, and for some months there has been a sustained press campaign, aided by the Liberal Political Party, for a complete 10 per cent cut on all wages."

The British Employers' Federation flooded England with a pamphlet entitled "Realities and Problems," with the object of creating a necessary public opinion to sustain wage reductions, said Mr. Sherwood.

"The employers are also awake to the determination of workers to resist.

"Conference of employers and representatives of ship building, engineering (machinists) and iron, steel and metal workers of all grades are being held. The trade unionists challenge the need for wage cuts, and have shattered the claim that the cost of social services (national health insurance, unemployment insurance and widows' pensions) are paid by the employers.

The workers quote employers to uphold the claim that "rationalization" (called "stabilization" in the United States) contributes to unemployment.

The unionists say: "If you close down factories, shipyards and engineering shops, if you 'rationalize' thousands of men out of their jobs for your own objects and your own purposes, these men have a claim which must be met and towards which they have contributed heavily toward their own wages."

The unionists twit employers for objecting to rates (taxes) after receiving generous bonuses from the government. The objection to taxes is classed by the unionists as "ungrateful clamour."

The unionists also take employers' testimony to prove that plants are obsolete, and that they operate without tools. This applies to engineering, textiles, iron, steel, etc.

"The average output per man a day of an American blast furnace is almost equal to the average output in a week of a British blast furnace," they say.

The unionists make crushing reply to the employers' claim. The conference indicates that the necessary public opinion to sustain wage reductions is not sure that they can mold public opinion to accept their wage-reduction plan.

"FEELER" THROWN OUT FOR WAGE REDUCTIONS

Washington, April 11.—John F. Sinclair, writing a copyrighted article for the North American Newspaper Alliance, says that information from "responsible sources" indicates that Governor Montague Norman, of the Bank of England, is in this country primarily to have American bankers accept Great Britain's policy of what is called "wage adjustment."

Wages of 1,500,000 British workers, it is stated, have been cut during the last 30 days "without serious disturbance." In fact, little has been said about it, writes Mr. Sinclair.

Dr. Lionel D. Edie, American economist, is quoted as saying that lower wages is inevitable because of reduced retail prices.

"Over-activity," continues Mr. Sinclair, "estimates that the large corporations already have reduced working men's incomes at least 10 per cent—either making cuts in the wage rates, but by dividing up the work among more people.

Labor is against wage reductions. The Hoover administration has come out against it. Admitting that there is a delicate one to handle, but the realities of the situation must be faced, sooner or later." The Sinclair article is in line with previous declarations by bankers, led by Albert H. Wiggin, head of the Chase National Bank of New York City, the largest bank on the North American continent.

FIGHT TO CONTROL TOBACCO COMPANY

New York, April 11.—The depression is removing the gloss from business supermen who were credited with greatness before when good times were at their peak.

Stockholders in several representative companies are objecting to policies that were formerly ignored or unknown. The changed viewpoint can be traced to failure to pay dividends or the threat that dividends will be cut.

The Bethlehem Steel Corporation must contest a suit started by a minority group of stockholders who demand that $32,000,000 voted as bonuses to officials be returned.

The P. Lorillard Company, one of the major units in the tobacco industry, also has a fight started by minority stockholders who object to millions of dollars paid to higher-ups as a bonus.

SHARP DROP MADE IN ALIEN ARRIVALS

Washington, April 11.—Only 3,147 aliens entered the United States in February for permanent residence. This is the smallest number in any month since 1820, beyond which records of the government do not extend.

"Consuls are selecting prospective immigrants more closely and it is almost impossible for a laborer to secure a visa here to this country," said Commissioner General of Immigration Hull.

"Deportation of aliens who have violated American laws is proceeding at the rate of about 18,000 annually this year."

USE OF COAL DROPS

Washington, April 11.—Fuel efficiency by electric utility power plants the last few years is one cause for the depressed condition of the coal industry.

The Federal Bureau of Mines states that the average consumption of coal in 1902 by these plants amounted to 6.4 pounds per kilowatt-hour, whereas preliminary figures for 1930 show the amount dropped to 1.62 pounds. Power plants that operate street railways is included in this estimate.

FAVOR INCOME TAX

Denver, April 11.—A resolution proposing a constitutional amendment that would permit a graduated income tax has been passed by the House of Representatives. The vote was 57 to 6.

EXTRA AUTO CAPACITY MEANS BIG OVERHEAD

New York, April 11.—Excessive plant capacity in the auto industry is "eating its head off," according to an editorial in the Automotive Daily News.

The auto industry, says this trade publication, is built to a capacity of 8,000,000 motor vehicles a year. The enormous output of 5,621,000 units in 1929 was still a short 1,600,000 vehicles below the industry's capacity.

"What is the solution?" asks the paper. "A good many economists will thank the man who finds one," it continues.

"Certainly, the automotive industry has got to take up in some way the slack between a production capacity of 8,000,000 vehicles and a demand for somewhere around 4,000,000 units. It can not logically expect the demand to increase enough high to meet the plant capacity factors within any imminent space of time.

"Plant capacity means overhead. In the first place, there is the cost of land, building construction, machinery and other equipment. In the second place, any plant or segment thereof brings with it operating expenses. Even if it is not in use, insurance must be maintained, janitors and mechanics must be paid to care for the idle machinery. Thus an idle plant or portion thereof may be said to be 'eating its head off,' exactly as a horse idle in the barn is said to perform that interesting operation.

"Under certain conditions it is quite possible for a manufacturing organization to be eaten out of house and home by idle plant space."

PUBLIC UTILITIES EVADE PROBE COSTS

Concord, N. H., April 11.—Governor Winant has vetoed a bank to public utilities the cost of investigations of their rates by the Public Service Commission.

The governor in an address before the State Senate said that in order for the Public Service Commission to carry out its obligation of rate regulation it would be necessary for "an annual appropriation which would be paid out of the pockets of the general taxpayers, whether or not they live within the area served by the utility company under investigation.

"Today the cost of the defense against lowering rates by public utilities is borne by consumers who pay the rates objected to as unreasonable," said the governor.

"Legislative appropriations in the past have not been sufficient to permit the commission to engage experts to make a thorough investigation. Therefore, as a practical matter, they have been compelled to reach their decisions largely, or entirely, on evidence introduced by the utility company under investigation."

ROAD CONTRACTORS TO PAY LIVING WAGE

Denver, April 11.—The State Highway Engineer has set an eight-hour day and a 50-cent hourly rate on road construction work.

The State Federation of Labor wants assurance that such rate will be paid and is urging passage of necessary legislation.

Contractors have been paying as low as $1.50 a day, according to the Colorado Labor Advocate.

OIL ON FIVE-DAY WEEK

San Francisco, April 11.—The Standard Oil Company of California placed its production department on the five-day week basis. Field and pipe line operators are included.

WANT FIVE-DAY WEEK

Providence, R. I., April 11.—The Building Trades Council asked local contractors to favor the five-day week. Several affiliates of the council work under this system.

OHL ON RELIEF BOARD

Madison, Wis., April 11.—Henry Ohl, Jr., president Wisconsin Federation of Labor, is included on Governor La Follette's unemployment relief board.